

Small Arms Protective Insert



Description

The Small Arms Protective Insert (SAPI) consists of interchangeable ceramic plates that are inserted into the front and back of the Outer Tactical Vest to increase a Marine's protection against small arms fire and fragmentation projectiles. SAPI is capable of defeating multiple hits from small arms fire of up to 7.62mm caliber at muzzle velocity.

Operational Impact

SAPI greatly increases the survivability of Marines on the battlefield. The lives of numerous Marines and soldiers were reported saved during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom as a result of using SAPI plates.

Program Status

Procurement to the original acquisition objective of 133,000 (two plates per Marine in the Ground Combat Element) was completed during fourth quarter FY 2003. As a result of feedback from operating forces in Operation Iraqi Freedom, the acquisition objective has been raised to 267,000. A new competitive contract was awarded in fourth quarter FY 04.

Procurement Profile: FY 05 FY 06

Quantity: 18,000 12,000

Developer/Manufacturer:

Initial Contractor: Simula Safety Systems,
Phoenix, AZ

New Contractor: TBD